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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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## **UDOT and UHP Advise Drivers with New Signs to Pull Off Freeway for Fender Benders**

*Agencies join together to protect drivers with first-of-its-kind signs in Utah*

LEHI, Utah (March 15, 2011) — The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and the Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) have joined efforts to install a sign unique to the state on the I-15 Corridor Expansion (I-15 CORE) project.

The signs installed over the weekend state “Fender Bender: Move Vehicles from Travel Lanes” to instruct drivers within the 24-mile construction project to proceed to the nearest full shoulder, emergency pull out, or pull off the freeway at the nearest exit after a minor traffic incident. The majority of Interstate 15 between Lehi Main and Spanish Fork Main has reduced shoulders for construction and lanes are narrowed. Leaving vehicles in travel lanes or attempting to exit a vehicle while in a travel lane are unnecessary safety hazards following a fender bender incident. It is of special concern when drivers pull over on the side of the freeway where there is little or no shoulder.

UDOT installed the signs in four strategic locations through the I-15 CORE project:

- SB I-15 just south of University Pkwy in Orem
- SB I-15 between American Fork 500 East and Orem 1600 North
- NB I-15 between US-6 in Spanish Fork and University Ave in Orem
- NB I-15 after the Orem University Parkway on-ramp

If a vehicle experiences car trouble or is incapacitated in the I-15 CORE construction zone, UDOT and UHP recommend for safety that drivers wait in their vehicle. The I-15 CORE Courtesy Patrol, UDOT Incident Management and UHP patrol the area and can offer assistance. The Courtesy Patrol drives the project area 24-7 and is a free service to help motorists with things like flat tires. These drivers work with UHP dispatch to get help to the location as needed.

Drivers should check the I-15 CORE website ([udot.utah.gov/i15core](http://udot.utah.gov/i15core)) for the latest information. Stay informed by signing up for weekly e-mail updates at [udot.utah.gov/i15core](http://udot.utah.gov/i15core), following the project on [facebook.com/i15core](https://www.facebook.com/i15core) and [twitter.com/i15core](https://twitter.com/i15core) and receiving text updates by texting “i15” to 53535.

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*Construction activities and dates are subject to change. Dates are weather-permitting and could change with short notice. Please check the I-15 CORE website ([udot.utah.gov/i15core](http://udot.utah.gov/i15core)) or the project's Twitter feed ([twitter.com/i15core](https://twitter.com/i15core)) for the latest information.*